



Arizona Department of Education  
**Research and Evaluation Section**  
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**TO:** Superintendents, Charter Holders, Principals, SAIS Information Managers,  
Accountability Directors, ELL Directors

**FROM:** Dr. Robert J. Franciosi  
Deputy Associate Superintendent

**DATE:** July 24, 2007

**SUBJECT:** **Update on changes to adequate yearly progress (AYP) evaluations for 2007;  
reminder on deadlines for appeals and data corrections for AYP and AMAO  
evaluations.**  
**(REF: RE07005-E)**

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This memo is to update you on changes to AYP evaluations for schools and districts/charter holders for 2007. It is also to provide you a reminder for deadlines for appeals and data corrections for AYP and AMAO evaluations.

#### **Changes to AYP Evaluations**

- 1. Growth Model.** Arizona has been approved to use a growth model in AYP evaluations. The approved model will be used for the 2007 evaluations. It will count as proficient students who show sufficient growth to reach proficiency in three years, or by eighth grade. The details of the model have changed substantially from the one presented in the May trainings. For a detailed explanation of the changes please refer to the revised proposal and the addendum at:

<http://www.ade.az.gov/azlearns/GrowthProposalArizona070702.pdf>

<http://www.ade.az.gov/azlearns/AddendumtoArizonaGrowthPlanFINAL.pdf>

- 2. English Language Learners.** Arizona has been approved to make the following changes regarding English language learners (ELL) to AYP evaluations:
  - a.** Recently arrived ELL students will not be included in the evaluation for annual measurable objectives (AMO). While calculating AMO determinations ADE will identify recently arrived (ELL) and automatically exclude them from the AMO determinations for all subgroups. Recently arrived ELL students will be identified by using the following criteria available in SAIS:
    - i. Students who were born outside of U.S.
    - ii. AND are currently participating in an ELL program
    - iii. AND not enrolled in SAIS before 2/1/06
    - iv. AND must have an enrollment activity of E6
    - v. AND the record passed ADM and ELL integrity

These are the ONLY criteria that may be used to identify these students. Appeals that identify additional students that do not meet these criteria (including having the information correctly entered into SAIS) will not be accepted.

Although the AYP evaluations will not include recently arrive ELL students in the AMO calculations, the evaluations will still hold schools responsible for testing these students.

- b. Fully English proficient students will not count toward the minimum group size of forty for evaluation of ELL subgroups.
- 3. **Interim Flexibility for Special Education Students.** The interim flexibility for special education students was NOT approved for the 2007 evaluations.

### **AMAO Determinations**

- 1. **Making Progress.** All ELL students' records should contain their latest assessment transactions. If the Harcourt assessment records arrived too late to be entered by the June 30, 2007 deadline you should submit the assessment results to SAIS. If students have assessment records for two sequential years, the assessment records will be used to determine if the students made progress in learning English in any one of the three areas evaluated (Oral, Reading and Writing).
- 2. **Reclassified.** To obtain credit for all students that have achieved English Language proficiency, you should complete two steps. First: you should enter the students' FY07 assessment records that show overall results as Reclassified Fluent English Proficient and then withdraw the students from the ELL Program in FY07 by using exit reason of 'Reclassified FEP by Reassessment'. The withdrawal date should be the last day of the school calendar of FY07.

### **Data corrections for AYP and AMAO evaluations**

- 1. **AYP statistical appeals.** All student information in the testing file is updated by matching test records to SAIS. The most important step you can take to ensure that the data used in the evaluation is correct is to have correct SAIS IDs associated with the test records. Correcting SAIS IDs can be done through the SAIS ID correction application available through the "AZ LEARNS / Adequate Yearly Progress (NCLB)" link on the common login. In the very rare event you need to correct student program memberships or enrollment in SAIS you must submit a Data Corrections Request Form available online at <http://azed.gov/azlearns/DCRTitleIIIMAO2007.pdf>.

Complete the form and fax it to Research and Evaluation at (602) 364-0887. You will be informed when the window has been opened. You do not have to submit this form if you are not correcting information in SAIS. Statistical appeals will not be granted if the underlying data is not corrected.

- 2. **AMAO statistical appeals.** If you need to correct SAIS information for ELL students for FY 2007 you must submit a Data Corrections Request Form available online at <http://azed.gov/azlearns/DCRTitleIIIMAO2007.pdf>.

Complete the form and fax it to Research and Evaluation at (602) 364-0887. You will be informed when the window has been opened. Statistical appeals will not be granted if the underlying data is not corrected.

## Deadlines

Please note the deadlines below:

**NOTE. Preliminary AYP evaluations are embargoed and are not to be shared with the public until the public release by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE). This information may be shared with staff only on a need-to-know basis.**

Preliminary AYP evaluations for all schools and districts.	<b>August 1, 2007</b>
Preliminary Title III AMAO evaluations for all districts.	<b>August 1, 2007</b>
Deadline for submitting Data Corrections Request Form to ADE to change information in SAIS for AYP and AMAO statistical appeals.	<b>August 10, 2007</b>
Deadline for submitting corrected information for AYP and AMAO statistical appeals.	<b>August 15, 2007</b>
Deadline for submitting appeals of AYP and AMAO determinations.	<b>August 15, 2007</b>
Public release of final AYP evaluations for all schools and districts.	<b>September 5, 2007</b>
Public release of final Title III AMAO evaluations for all districts.	<b>September 5, 2007</b>

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Research and Evaluation at 602-542-5151 or email [achieve@azed.gov](mailto:achieve@azed.gov).